MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information required by the member is given below: —

Year.	*No. of notices issued.*
1103	11,334
1104	12,169
1105	9,115
1106	9,752
First 3 quarters of 1107	12,689

Provision of funds for the Valiatodu bridge.

150. **MR. K. KRISHNAN NAYAR** (*Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Executive Engineer, Kottayam, has sent an estimate for the Valiatodu bridge at the place where the Manimala-Ranni road and the Ranni branch road meet; and

(*b*) if so, why the estimate was not sanctioned?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The estimate can be considered only after the present financial conditions improve.

Reconstruction of the bridge over the Pazhayar at Suchindram.

151. **MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there was a proposal to reconstruct the bridge over the Pazhayar in front of the Suchindram temple;

(*b*) whether they are aware that, at present (9-11-1107), motor lorries and loaded buses are not allowed to pass along the bridge;

(*c*) whether they are aware that passengers are afraid of passing along the bridge because of the reasonable suspicion that the bridge might fall down;

(*d*) whether there was any budget provision for reconstructing the bridge in 1105 or 1106 or 1107;

(*e*) whether they intend to make provision for it in the Budget for 1108; and

(*f*) if the answer to part (*e*) is in the affirmative, the amount to be provided?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The required information can be had from the printed Budgets of the years referred to.

(*e*) There was an idea of providing for the work, but owing to financial stringency the work had to be omitted.

(*f*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*e*).

Opening of an English middle school at Agastisvaram.

152. **MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there was a requisition from one Gurunatha Martanda Nadar, ex-member, Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, to open an English middle school at Agastisvaram; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken by them thereon?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Mr. Gurunatha Martanda Nadar requested permission to put up the school building on *poramboke* land. The request was refused. He has renewed the request and the matter is under consideration.

Ferry service across the Piravam ferry.

153. **MR. K. P. ABRAHAM** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): (1) Are the Government aware:

(*a*) that there is regular motor traffic on the roads (i) between Ernakulam and Peppatipara, which is on the western side of the Piravam ferry, and (ii) between Piravam on the eastern side of the ferry and Koottattukulam;

(*b*) that a large number of people including women and children have to cross the river daily at the Piravam ferry and that there is no regular ferry service at that place; and

(*c*) that during summer months people have to cross the river at the Piravam ferry wading through water more than waist-deep?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have introduced a ferry service across the Piravam river; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative,

(i) the months of the Malabar year for which the ferry-man is given any pay; and

(ii) his pay per mensem?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (1) (*a*) (i) and (ii) Yes.

(*b*) Yes; and there is a regular ferry service for nine months of the year at the crossing.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(2) (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to part (1) (*b*) above.

(*b*) (i) The ferry-man is paid for nine months from the 16th Edavam to the 16th Kumbham.

(ii) Rs. 6-14-0.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): In regard to (2) (*b*) (i), may I know why there is no ferry service for the remaining three months in the year?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): It was considered that during summer the people could wade through easily.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): May I know the idea of the Government in regard to the depth of the water at that place during summer?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The Government have no information.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to make an investigation whether during the remaining three months there will not be too much water for people to wade through?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The Government will ask the Chief Engineer, if necessary.

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